

## **REMARKS**

Claims 27-52 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1-26 are cancelled.

Claims 27-52 are newly entered.

The claims are believed to be allowable for the reasons set forth herein. Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

### Drawings

The drawings are objected to due to faded or overexposed regions. Substitute drawings sheets are submitted herewith thereby rendering the objection moot.

### Claim Objections

Claims 4-26 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form. Claims 4-26 have been cancelled thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Claims 4-26 are cancelled thereby rendering the objections moot.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1-3 are cancelled thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Pat. No. 7,144,622 to Stecher et al. as the English translation for WO/2001/16240. Claims 1-3 are cancelled thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being rejected unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 7,309,520 to Kosack as the English translation of WO/2002/101267. Claims 1-3 are cancelled thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,748,075 to Beyer et al. Claims 1-3 are cancelled thereby rendering the rejection moot.

### Double Patenting

Claims 1-3 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 39, 45-46, 49 and 53 of copending Application No. 10/554,456. Claims 1-3 are cancelled thereby rendering the rejection moot.

### Newly Entered Claims

Claims 27-52 are newly entered claims. The claims are entered to traverse the objections and rejections previously presented.

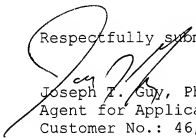
Claims 27-52 are believed to be patentable over the art of record.

With regards to the prior art there is no teaching of, at least, the fibers having the relative lengths as stated in claim 1.

### CONCLUSIONS

Claims 27-52 are pending in the present application. All claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Joseph T. Guy, Ph.D.  
Agent for Applicants  
Customer No.: 46,591

October 7, 2009